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16 July 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL SMITH

In May National Security Council agreed that CONGRESSIONAL DISCLOSURES OF CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF INFORMATION, listed TAB A, are detrimental to national security, and directed Senior NSC Staff to prepare recommendations for Council consideration.

TAB B is summary of Senior NSC Staff's recommendation that the President direct letters to the Vice President and Speaker of the House of Representatives to: indicate NSC concern over Congressional disclosure of five categories of information, and to suggest remedial action.

IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM OF 2 JULY, State Department requests that Senior NSC Staff revise its recommendation to provide that the proposed letters from the President call Congressional attention to only four categories of information, and make no reference to distribution of information to Iron Curtain countries by Library of Congress because: the material is generally available, US gains from information it receives under the library exchange agreements, and Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security is considering the question of exporting this type of information and will report shortly.


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Ref: ER 1-9334

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON

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July 2, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SENIOR NSC STAFF

SUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information of
Advantage to Foreign Governments

- REFERENCES: A. Memorandum for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated June 15, 1951
- B. Memorandum for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated May 16, 1951
- C. NSC Action No. 478

The attached memorandum on the subject from the Department of State is transmitted herewith for the consideration of the Senior NSC Staff prior to consideration of Reference A by the National Security Council.

JAMES S. LAY, Jr.
Executive Secretary

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(Senior Staff)

COPYDEPARTMENT OF STATE
The Counselor

June 29, 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. JAMES S. LAY, JR.
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCILSUBJECT: Congressional Publication of Information of
Advantage to Foreign GovernmentsREFERENCES: A. Memorandum for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated June 15, 1951
B. Memorandum for NSC from Executive Secretary,
same subject, dated May 16, 1951
C. NSC Action No. 478

It is requested that the following suggested revision of subparagraph a of your memorandum of June 15, 1951 on the above subject be circulated to the members of the Senior NSC Staff for their consideration prior to the meeting of the Council on this subject:

a. Indicating that the National Security Council has expressed to the President its concern over disclosures of information in four of the five categories listed in the enclosure to Reference A, which disclosures are felt to be detrimental to the national security (no reference should be made to category 4 of the May 16 memorandum -- Library of Congress exchange agreements)

It has been felt in the Department of State that the information which was sent abroad under the Library of Congress exchange agreements did not constitute a problem of "disclosure" since the material is generally available, and that on the whole the United States because of the information it received in return is the gainer. The question of exporting this type of information is now under consideration by the Interdepartmental Committee on Internal Security which will undoubtedly report shortly and it would be desirable to await their report.

/s/ Max W. Bishop

Max W. Bishop
NSC Staff AssistantDRAFT~~CONFIDENTIAL~~